

Ben Steffen of the Maryland Health Care Commission opened the meeting with introductions and reviewed the work of the group so far. Mr. Steffen stated that a number of attorney's were consulted and all agreed that they would be unable to definitively answer the question, "do value-based arrangements violate the MPRL?" without specific facts about the particular arrangement. Mr. Steffen did note that, since the Maryland law was conceived from Stark, and purposely created as more restrictive than Stark, if an exemption is required from Stark, it would follow that an exemption would be required from the MPRL.

Nicole Stallings of the Maryland Hospital Association and Dr. Arnold Levy, of the Maryland Patient Care and Access Coalition, then presented a consensus document. The document outlined basic principles to serve as the foundation for changes to the MPRL and/or corresponding regulations to allow for new value based arrangements and recognize the changes to the healthcare landscape.

Dr. Loralie Ma and Pegeen Townsend of MedStar Health stated that, prior to making changes to statute, it would be important to exhaust all avenues for changes to regulation to allow new value based payment models.

Dr. Gary Pushkin advised the group to unify as physicians and health care providers and come together around the idea that the MPRL is outdated and needs to be changed.

Dr. Ajrawat reminded the group that the well-being of patients is the most important consideration.

Mr. Steffen reviewed next steps. Staff will write and circulate a report which will be presented to the Maryland Health Care Commission on November 19th. The report will be delivered to Chairman Hammen by December 1, 2015. He closed encouraging the stakeholders to continue to work together going into session.